

Bible Society Record

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



October 25, 1929.

The annual observance of Universal Bible Sunday is a valuable aid in spreading knowledge of the Book of Books, from the pages of which have come those ideals that root our government and our national life firmly in the consciences of men and women.

Herbert Hoover

The Christmas Street

RED of holly, swirl of snow,
Scurry of passing feet,
Jumble of people, high and low—
This is the Christmas street.
White man, black man, bishop, Jew—
Christ was born for all of you.

Santa Claus and mistletoe,
Newsboy, fakir, cheat,
Drab and virgin, on they go—
This is the Christmas street.
Pass and pass, O motley crew—
Christ he lives in all of you!

—Josephine Prescott Montague

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BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

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A Worn Testament and Why

By the Rev. A. F. Ragatz, D.D., Secretary, Western Agency

"WAIT a minute," called a stranger to a colporteur on the streets of a Western town. The colporteur waited. The stranger soon arrived and said, "Are you not the 'Bible man' who sold me two five-cent Testaments three years ago?"

"Yes; I'm the Bible man," replied the colporteur; "but I do not remember selling you the Testaments."

"Well," said the stranger, "I can remind you of the transaction. Don't you recall having a drunken good-for-nothing fellow butt in on you while you were selling Bibles on the street in S—— three years ago?"

The colporteur did recall the incident. The drunken man whose whole appearance indicated his moral, spiritual and physical deterioration had made a deep impression on the Bible man, and he had often wondered who his customer might be, and why he had bought the Testaments. To the stranger he said, "Yes, I remember the transaction; but who are you and how do you happen to recall that occasion?"

"Why," came the reply, "I am the man who bought the Testaments."

The colporteur could not conceal his astonishment; for the man who now stood before him was clear-eyed, clean and upstanding in every particular. The stranger, seeing his evident surprise, said, "Let me tell you my story."

"When I met you first, I was a low-down, good-for-nothing, drunken thug. I hadn't given religion a thought for many years; but when I saw you with those Bibles, I thought it would be nice to buy one for each of my little boys."

"The fact that they were not old enough to

read did not enter my mind until I gave the books to them. No sooner did they have the Testaments than they began to pester me to read to them. They simply drove me to it, though I would rather not have done so.

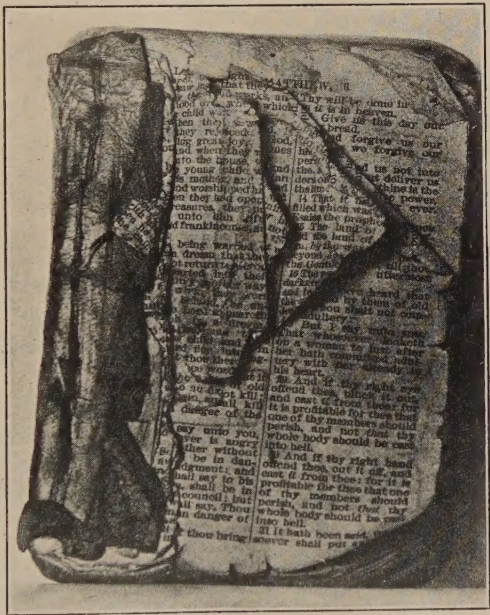
"However, when I began to read, I discovered that it was not as disagreeable as I thought it would be. In fact, there was something about it that interested me, and before I had read very much a deep yearning to know God gripped my heart. The little chaps were satisfied—I could have put the book away—but I was not satisfied. I read on and on, until I felt myself to be a sinner lost for time and eternity, unless God through his great love would have mercy upon me.

"Well, the result was that I confessed my sins; my prayer for a clean heart was answered, and my sins were forgiven. And, sir, from that day to this I have carried one of those little Testaments and have read out of it every day during the last three years."

Here the stranger handed the colporteur the Testament whose corners once were

square, but now were worn completely off. The whole book showed evident signs of much use. The back had been rebound and covered with a piece of leather from an old glove; and scarcely a page had not underscorings.

Last month our first page had the picture of a beautiful new Bible presented to the Prime Minister of Great Britain. This month we have a Testament which bears heavy marks of real service and has brought peace to troubled hearts. The Bible is the Book of Peace to nations and to individuals.



THE WORN TESTAMENT

Rebound with leather from an old glove. Note marking in right margin of first whole page.

Notes and Comments

IN our December issue each year we plan to feature different phases of Bible work among the aged or the young. Our special emphasis in this issue is the need and the work among the young people of the world.

THE following comments have come from recent correspondence:

Washington, D. C.
THE BIBLE SOCIETY RECORDS are little in size, but indeed they hold big thoughts for one to ponder over.

Hebron, Ind.
Your October issue is a wonderful foreign missionary number—very impressive. The kingdom of our glorious King is subduing all other kingdoms.

Brookings, S. D.
The RECORD is one of my most loved magazines, and all its most interesting contents are eagerly read. No work is more dear to my heart nor, it seems to me, more fruitful.

FROM time to time there comes into the office of one of our Agencies a laboring man, who leaves five dollars "for Scripture translation or distribution among native colored Africans." Such gifts have a value far beyond that of the money involved, and indicate something of the

place Bible work has in the hearts of large faith and modest means.

THE annual program for the "Week of Prayer," January 5 to 11 inclusive, 1930, has been sent out by the Commission on Evangelism and Life Service of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. Among the objects designated for special prayer on Thursday, January 9, are included "all Bible and Tract Societies, engaged in translating and distributing the Word of God."

IN the Union Bible Society of Fairfield and Richland Counties there was included at one time a church known as "Horeb." Some years ago, the membership of this church died out or moved away, and the church was torn down. But, as regularly as the name of the church is called in the annual meeting of this Bible Society, Mr. Charles A. Robinson, of Winnsboro, South Carolina, comes forward and brings a collection for the Bible Society. This Auxiliary has recently used its contribution to make Mr. Robinson a Life Member.

Sammy Solomon and William Tyndale

SOME months ago in response to a request from the Rev. H. C. Clowes, associate pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Irwin, Pa., we sent a few of the posters the American Bible Society has issued during the past few years in connection with the observance of Bible Sunday. These were to be posted at different times on the bulletin board of the church.

The day after the Tyndale poster had been placed on the board, a little Syrian boy came to Mr. Clowes, and the following conversation took place:

Sammy: "Say, mister, what's that picture on that paper?"

Mr. Clowes: "That is a picture of the man who first wrote our Bible into English, Sammy."

"What's his name?"

"Tyndale, Sammy."

"What's he writing with? a pencil?"

"No; they had to use goose-feather pens at that time, Sammy."

"Didn't they have fountain pens?"

"No; that was 400 years ago, over in the old country."

"Before Mom was a girl or even a baby?"

"Yes."

"Gee! And didn't they have anything but candles for light? Not even 'lectric light?"

"No."

"Gee! And why is that man writing at night?"

"The people were persecuting him, that is, the bad people wanted to kill him. Tyndale wanted to translate the Bible for all the people, so they could read it."

"Gee! Was he a bad man?"

"No; you see no one could read the Bible then, except a few men. It was written in another language."

"Gee! And what's that picture up in the corner?"

"That is how the bad people killed Tyndale; they burned him to death."

"And he's hanging to the cross just like Jesus?"

"No; they did not burn Jesus, they crucified him."

"Oh, I know, they nailed big spikes through him, didn't they?"

"Yes."

"Gee! Just think if some bad people killed a man like that today, gee!"

And so the conversation ended, another little boy coming and taking Sammy away.

Forty Years with the American Bible Society

FORTY years of service with the American Bible Society is not so unusual as to length of time as it is in the fact that it has afforded Frank T. Brooks, of New York, who has served the Society since 1889, most of the time as superintendent of printing, the unique distinction of having assisted in putting new translations and revisions of the Bible, or some portion of it, into print in more languages and dialects than has any other employee of the Society since its establishment.

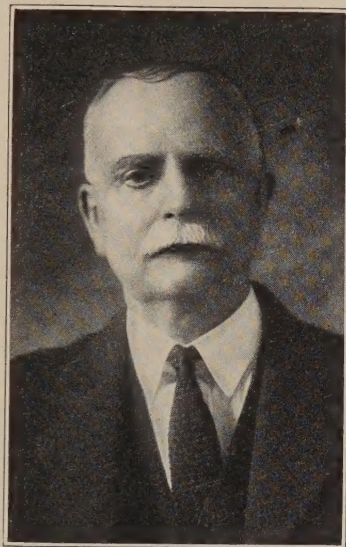
When Mr. Brooks started with the Society, in 1889, typesetting was being done on a revised version of a Modern Syriac Bible first printed in 1852, nineteen years after American missionaries had discovered a community of 150,000 people near Lake Oroomiah, Persia, who spoke an unwritten dialect of the Syriac language, and who had no printed books—and but few manuscripts in Ancient Syriac, a tongue unknown to most of them.

The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Labarree, who undertook the revision of this Bible, found the work very difficult because of the variation of dialects between the people of the mountains and those of the plains; and the American Bible Society, in putting it into type, experienced one of the most difficult tasks it ever undertook. The use of more than 400 different type characters were required to represent the letters of the alphabet, figures, punctuations, and diacritical marks. Notwithstanding the multiplicity and similarity of these strange-looking characters, the work was almost wholly accomplished by American compositors and proofreaders.

Following the Syriac Bible, work was begun on the Gilbert Islands Bible for the inhabitants of the Gilbert group of islands in the Pacific, made possible as the result of thirty-one years of study and labor by the Rev. Dr. Hiram Bingham, an American missionary, who, in 1873, completed a translation of the New Testament, and who, with the aid of his wife and two native assistants, seventeen years later, put the completed copy for the entire Bible into the hands of the Bible Society. English characters

being employed in this language, the typesetting and proofreading was comparatively easy, and the Bible was soon in print.

The fruits of these translators and revisers, born through long patience and toil, represent only a few of the many sacrifices which have been made in preparing the manuscripts for the printing of the Holy Scriptures in the many languages and dialects in which the Society has published them. The more recent ones were the Testament in Luragoli, the Bible in Nauru, the Testament in Miskito, the Bible in Luba-Lulua, the Gospels in Olunyore, the Gospels in an Eskimo dialect, the Psalms in Quechua and Spanish (diglot); the Gospels in Hopi (Indian); and the Gospel of Mark in Aymara, which has not yet gone to press.



FRANK T. BROOKS

To enumerate most briefly the languages and dialects in which the Society has printed new translations or revisions of the Scriptures, with which Mr. Brooks has assisted, the following alphabetical list is presented:

Arapahoe	KusaTen	Portuguese
Aymara	Luba-Lulua	Quechua
Benga	Luragoli	Ruk
Bulu	Marshall Is.	Sheetswa
Chamorro	Miskito	Spanish
Eskimo	Mortlock	Swedish
Gilbert Is.	Mpongwe	Syriac
Hawaiian	Muskokee	Tonga
Hopi	Nauru	Winnebago
Ilocano	Navaho	Yiddish
K'Pelle	Olunyore	Zapotec
Kurdish	Ponape	Zulu

As the preceding list does not represent the languages and dialects in which the Scriptures were printed from plates produced by photographic process, nor the languages reprinted from plates made from type to produce books of various sizes, we append the following list:

Languages in which Scriptures were produced from plates by photography		
Arabic	Choctaw	Polish
Armenian	Greek	Russian
Bohemian	Hungarian	Ruthenian
Bulgarian	Lithuanian	Syriac
Bulu	Muskokee	

Languages for which plates were made from type		
Albanian	French	Portuguese
English	Italian	Spanish

During the period of the World War plates were made by photographic process for reprinting the Bible in nine different languages; while plates for the New Testament together with

other Scripture portions were made from type for printing in nearly as many more, including the New Testament in French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish in vest-pocket size, especially for use of the soldiers.

Speaking in terms of languages, the reader may not understand that in every language as many different sets of plates are required as there are different books and sizes.

Friends of the American Bible Society will be glad to know, as do all who are acquainted with Mr. Brooks personally, that the supervision of the setting up and printing of these various translations has not been a mere mechanical process on the part of Mr. Brooks. It has been as truly a labor of love and a work of consecration, patience and fidelity to duty, as the work of the translators and missionaries.

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At Work, at Play and at Devotions in the Japan Agency

A COLPORTEUR canvassing a farmer's home. The use of the bicycle in this work has proven very profitable. Field workers covered 30,000 miles in one year, canvassing 274,120 homes and 646 institutions.

The Agency Secretary calls colportage "a God-pleasing method" of Bible work for Japan. According to a missionary, "Access to rural Japan—the Japan of the common people—is invitingly open. Access to the heart of the country people is increasingly possible; the internal barriers of the spirit are rapidly weakening."



THE workers of the Japan Agency have a picnic every spring. This year it was held on the banks of the Tama River, about fifteen miles from the Bible House, Tokyo.

Some of the workers are pictured engaging in a



footrace as a part of their outing. The group consists of three colporteurs, one Bible House worker and one employee of the printing house. He practices in walking counts for anything, one of the colporteurs should easily win the race.



DEVOTIONAL hour at the spring picnic 1929 is here pictured. The Agency Secretary, the Rev. Karl E. Aurell, leading the service, is standing with one of the native workers.

Every Monday morning all the workers observe a period of special devotion at the Bible House, Tokyo. This "has proved mutually most encouraging and inspiring," says Mr. Aurell.

Our Chief Executives and the Book of Books

IN anticipation of Universal Bible Sunday, to be observed on Sunday, December 8, letters were sent to the President of the United States and to the governors of all the states of the Union asking for a personal testimony to the Bible and an expression of opinion on the value of Universal Bible Sunday. The replies have been so warm-hearted and so revealing that we desire to share them with as many as possible.

As their length precludes printing the letters in full, only the salient paragraphs are given.

President Hoover's reply is given in full on the cover of this issue:

The Governors

ARIZONA

I think the movement to establish Universal Bible Sunday is a most commendable one. I was a Bible student early in my life and during most of the later years have taught a Bible Class.

H. C. Phillips

ARKANSAS

I unhesitatingly commend the occasion of Universal Bible Sunday, which is to be held this year on December 8. The very foundation of civilized society rests upon the rock of faithful religion regardless of creed, and without its influences the civilized nations and peoples would disintegrate into oblivion.

Harvey Parnell

DELAWARE

To me the importance of the Book of Books lies in the helpfulness to the general cultivation of character which knowledge of its contents gives, although mere knowledge of itself is not sufficient to insure proper character attitudes.

C. D. Buck

FLORIDA

Opportunity will be given the people of the United States on Sunday, December 8, to learn more of the greatest book in history—the Holy Bible. On this day the churches throughout America are to observe and preach its teachings. It is important to every phase of advancement of mankind that this day be one in which the Word of God is sought, and I cannot stress too great a degree the importance that all sections of the United States take part.

D. E. Carlton

IDAHO

The more I observe the activities of men, the more thoroughly I become convinced that a literal interpretation and application of Christ's teachings would solve all the problems of society. The observance of Bible Sunday, December 8, should serve to call effectively to the attention of all people the fundamental truths of life that the Bible reveals.

H. C. Baldrige

ILLINOIS

Permit me to express the hope that Universal Bible Sunday, December 8, will not only be generally observed throughout the country, but that it will impress on the public consciousness the fact that our present civilization is based on the teachings of the Bible. Without the great moral precepts, taught and lived by Jesus of Nazareth, our world would indeed be in a topsy-turvy condition.

L. L. Emerson

INDIANA

The biggest influence in the lives of men today is the open Bible. No man's education is complete without a good working knowledge of the Bible. Its influence upon individuals and society is so marked that the outstanding men and nations of today are those whose lives and actions most nearly conform to its teaching. It is most fitting and proper that we devote a day to contemplation of its worth to humanity.

H. G. Leslie

KANSAS

That thousands of pastors on Sunday, December 8, in all sections of the United States will preach to their congregations on the Bible and urge a more faithful study of its truths is a noble achievement, whose influence will radiate to every part of the world. I am pleased to give not alone my endorsement, but I know I can convey to the American Bible Society the hope and wish of the people of Kansas, that this event may mark an epoch in a greater and wider search for the truths and blessings promised in the pages of this good book.

C. M. Reed

MAINE

The ministry of the Bible to individuals and to humanity holds a significant place, unique in the foundation of our country's history and foremost as a factor contributing to its greatness and success. We may well stress the value of lessons to be gained from its study.

W. T. Gardiner

MARYLAND

The Bible has always preceded civilization on the latter's progress in the world. It has been the missionary, the outpost of every advance of mankind. It is the great comfort and solace and strength of both the strong and the weak. The observance of Universal Bible Sunday is altogether praiseworthy and important, and I consider it a privilege to endorse the occasion.

A. C. Ritchie

MASSACHUSETTS

I welcome the opportunity of endorsing Universal Bible Sunday, and I find it very difficult to express in words the high appreciation and value I place upon the Holy Bible. The Book has exerted a tremendous influence upon the destinies of the world—a greater influence than any of us realize. No one of the Christian faith cares to contemplate what the world would be without the Bible. It is the foundation and cornerstone of our Christian faith and worship.

F. G. Allen

MICHIGAN

If we could instill into the minds and hearts of people on earth that faith which was in the bosom of the wise men of the East who followed the star to the manger where reposed the Redeemer of mankind, the world would be a better place in which to live. The Bible is the greatest agency for the teaching of this faith which is so necessary for the future preservation of our spiritual and national life.

F. W. Green

MINNESOTA

So much of the thought of the world centers about the Bible, so much literature makes allusions to it, so many of our institutions are based upon its teachings, and our civilization is so closely tied up to it, that no man, whether believer or nonbeliever, can question its right to be considered as the greatest of all books.

Theodore Christanson

NEVADA

I am very glad to endorse Universal Bible Sunday, which has been fixed for December 8, 1929, and to express the hope that it may be universally observed throughout our state and nation.

F. B. Balzar

NEW MEXICO

The Bible is undoubtedly the greatest book ever written. The reading of it should be encouraged, and there should be a copy of it in every home.

R. C. Dillon

NEW YORK

I feel that a comprehensive study of the Bible is a liberal education for anyone. Nearly all of the great men of our country have been well versed in teachings of the Bible, and I sincerely hope that the habit of Bible study will be developed among the people.

F. D. Roosevelt

NORTH CAROLINA

The great benefits which I have derived personally from a study of the Bible prompt me to endorse whole-heartedly the suggestion for the celebration of a Universal Bible Sunday.

O. Max Gardner

OHIO

The practice of each year devoting a day to emphasize the ministry and help which the Book has afforded millions, must appeal to every thinking person. Covering as it does a range of subjects as wide as humanity itself, the Book compasses within its pages the circumference of human experience. Study of its verses has provided inspiration for the greatest of the nation's leaders, and comfort to mankind everywhere.

M. Y. Cooper

OKLAHOMA

The law of "survival of the fittest" should and does place the Bible first in all literature. The remorseless ravages of time, the mutations of civilization, the desolation of empires, the crumbling of the works of man, leave the Bible undisturbed.

H. S. Johnston

OREGON

I am, of course, interested in any movement which will impress upon our people the important place

the Bible occupies in our moral and social life, and will encourage them to pursue a more faithful study of its truths.

I. L. Patterson

PENNSYLVANIA

Our nation receives its moral tone from the Word of God. This applies to professors and non-professors alike. An increased knowledge of the Bible will strengthen the moral quality of the people. The more Bible we have, the less law we will need. In a higher sense, the observance of this day will lead to great benefits to all the churches by a spiritual revival resulting from a renewed and intensified interest in the Holy Book.

J. S. Fisher

RHODE ISLAND

The Bible, the Book of Books, is my guide and that of my family, day by day, throughout the year.

N. S. Case

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Bible is the only book that lies at all times upon my desk in the executive offices of South Carolina, and it is my light and guide as I try to do the difficult work that confronts me as governor of this great state.

J. G. Richards

WASHINGTON

There is not anything more needed in America today than righteousness among the people. No book will have a more righteous effect upon the reader than the Holy Bible. Therefore, any effort that is put forth that will cause people to read this "Book of the Law" will be a benefit to the nation.

R. H. Hartley

WYOMING

Throughout the centuries the Bible has remained the Book of Books. It is well that the importance of the Bible should be emphasized; for folks are too prone to overlook the great values which will come to them through study and contemplation of the beautiful and helpful ideals which find expression in the Holy Book.

F. C. Emerson

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Translation into Cakchiquel Celebrated

On Thursday, October 10, 1929, the translation of the New Testament into Cakchiquel was completed by the Rev. and Mrs. W. Cameron Townsend. The event was inspiringly celebrated in the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, California. We are glad to share with the readers of THE BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD the account of this unique service as it was reported in the "Santa Ana Register" of October 11. This is one of the many translations which the American Bible Society has had so large a part in giving to the world.

AN arduous task has been finished. Nine years of labor have culminated in a magnificent success. Last night marked the completion of a translation of the New Testament into the Cakchiquel Indian language of Guatemala, a task undertaken by a former Santa Ana boy and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. W. Cameron Townsend, and citizens of this city manifested their congratulations in a great praise service, held in the First Presbyterian Church commemorating the completion of the translation.

The Rev. R. B. McAulay, pastor of the Orange Presbyterian church and former college mate of Townsend, opened the service

with an inspirational prayer. The Rev. O. Scott McFarland, pastor, presided.

Joe Chicol, Cakchiquel Indian, who has assisted the Townsends in finding the correct Cakchiquel words for their Spanish equivalents in the labor of translation, spoke briefly on the subject, "What This Translation Will Mean to My People." He said in part:

"Marvelous Thing"

"Dear friends, I am glad to have this opportunity of telling you that this work of translating the New Testament to the Cakchiquel has been a marvelous thing. There are no words to explain how God guided and blessed

in order that my people might have the precious Word of his in the language which they can understand. And I know that most of them will appreciate it, and I do hope that not only to be appreciated, but that thousands of souls may be saved by this great work."

Dr. William B. Allison, a senior missionary from Guatemala, brought a word of sympathy and inspirational understanding for the work of the Townsends.

"I have been sitting in the back of this church tonight visualizing the millions of people who, until now, never have read the Word of God in their own tongue. I know where those people live, I know how they live, I know the hunger of their hearts for the gospel.

"It is through the Word of God that man comes to light. It is through the reading of his Word that we become aware of the meaning of his great promises. There are all so few yet among the many who do know God's Word.

"Tonight is the beginning of a new epoch. For four centuries the Indians of Guatemala have been held down because of ignorance and practically neglected. Now a translation of God's Word into a language that one of the tribes, the Cakchiquel Indians, can understand has been completed."

A Long, Hard Task Completed

In giving a short account of the translation work, Townsend said, in part:

"We are very happy. A long, hard task has been completed. The blessed New Testament has been translated into another language. Humanly speaking, the task was impossible. The language was unwritten. There were no teachers who understood grammar. There were no competent linguists to undertake the task.

"We were willing, but untrained. Our missionary duties demanded most of our time. Native helpers often would fail us. Our health failed at times. Our eyes would tire and demand rest. Our spiritual weaknesses would crowd in upon us. Some of our collaborators would say we were wasting our time. Some of those for whom we were laboring opposed us. But through all our difficulties and failures, God never failed. He was faithful, and it is through that fact alone that we are able to celebrate victory tonight.

"We began the undertaking a little over nine years ago in the hut where the believers of Patzum held their services. Trinidad Bac was our teacher. After two months of arduous questioning, writing and comparing, we discovered a few of the elementary rules of the language and formulated something of a vo-

cabulary. It was all new to Mr. Bac, and he didn't know how to go about it.

"It has been a long road from that small beginning to the classification of over 2,000 verb forms. We have come to greatly respect the Cakchiquel language. It is not an evolved language like English, but exists in its original purity to a remarkable degree. It seems to be the product of a great intellect.

Hut Cold and Damp

"The hut in Patzum was cold and damp. We slept in one corner, ate our meals off the pulpit, and sat in the warmest corner to do our language work. On meeting nights we would roll up our blankets so that the board bed could be used for seats. It was a little disagreeable; so we were happy when a call came from the town of Comalapa, saying that some people were anxious to hear the gospel.

"We went and held several meetings there and had the privilege of baptizing the first converts of that town. Among them were Joe Chicol's parents. Joe was a bright lad of eight years, and we suggested that he go to San Antonio to study in our little mission school. He went and applied himself in his customary business-like fashion until, after six years, he joined our staff of translators with a knowledge of grammar that the others lacked.

"Six other Indian Christians beside Joe and Mr. Bac have assisted in this work; but these two have done the most. They have labored and hoped and despaired and labored, and now their hopes are realized. They have a right to rejoice.

"We are exceedingly grateful to the American Bible Society and the Central American Mission for their faithful assistance. We appreciate more than we can say the wonderful way in which so many of you have assisted us. We rejoice in the hospitality of this church.

"Over one thousand years after the New Testament was written it was translated into English. Nearly two thousand years have elapsed until now it is to be given to the 200,000 Cakchiquels. How much time will you let go by before the five hundred other tribes of Latin America receive God's Word in their own languages?"

With a word regarding the "Undergirding of God," the Rev. O. Scott McFarland paid a dramatic tribute to the little father and mother of the young missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Townsend, of the Santa Ana Gardens district, whom he introduced from the platform.

Mr. and Mrs. Townsend completed the manuscript for their son and daughter-in-law by writing the last two words of the translation—"Rix. Amen."

Bible Needs and Bible



THE pictures on this page take us from the extreme cold of the Arctic Circle to the tropical heat of the Equator; and everywhere the hearts of children as well as of men and women eagerly respond to the message of the Book.

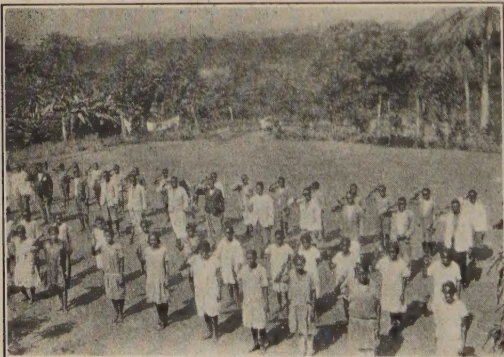
The upper pictures show, on the left, an interestingly dressed Alaskan girl with her baby sister, carried in the native fashion on the back; and on the right a group of Alaskans to whom the Scriptures have been furnished through the Pacific Agency of the American Bible Society.

In the center of the page is a cabin-home among the mountains of the South—a home which lacks the physical conveniences and attractiveness which most of us associate with

the idea of home, but a place, nevertheless, which contains the most important things in the world: little children. It was a Bibleless home, until one of the workers of our Central Agency supplied it with the Scriptures.

At the bottom of the page, on the left, a class in the Methodist Episcopal Mission, Monrovia, Liberia, is seen saluting the flag. A grant of Bibles which was made to this school was deeply appreciated.

On the right we see the results of the quiet efforts of one of our efficient workers in Brazil, who gets children together in his home on Sunday afternoons to teach them the Bible—an important though unspectacular service in a country where the Bible was so long a closed book.



on the World Around

IN the East China Sub-Agency, Mr. Timothy Wong spends much of his time in interviewing church leaders, with the idea of getting them to undertake the circulation of the

Wong are seen with some Christians at one of the places visited. The woman in front holds a copy of General Chang's Bible, the characters on the cover of which declare that the Bible is the world's greatest classic. The posters announce Mr. Wong is prepared to supply the Scriptures in many dialects.

On the right is the kind of boat in which Mr. and Mrs. Wong traveled while in the



province of Chekiang. The scenery is typical.

The picture at the bottom of the page is that of Mr. Sah, who was converted under the preaching of Mr. Wong. Under his arm is the Bible he bought from Mr. Wong. Mr. Sah's wife and two children and a group of friends present at his baptism complete the picture.

Scriptures through voluntary workers. He also gives practical instruction to such workers.

In the upper left picture Mr. and Mrs.



Working among Difficulties

BIBLE distributors cannot be fair weather workers only. And workers in the Agency among the Colored People have their share of inconvenience and difficulty, as the following incidents reveal.

The Rev. I. Dyer reports:

"We visited another town in a black land section of the country. When it rains there, the mud clings to your feet like steel to a magnet. It had been raining for eight or ten days. The streets in town, and all the country roads around about town, had become almost impassable for any kind of vehicle. The only ways one could travel were on horseback and on foot. A blizzard came on and found the town's supply of fuel almost exhausted. The country people could not bring in wood from the country, and before wood and coal could be brought in by railway from other places, the people suf-

fered intensely. In the midst of all this, however, we tried to pursue our work. At times our feet were so heavy with mud that we could hardly lift them. We made a few sales of our books of the cheaper binding, and made our way to the next city."

Mrs. M. Paramore has worked around the city for several years, and claims that Bible circulation is her calling. "I get mighty tired of carrying heavy loads of books from house to house sometimes," she often says, "but this is the only way to get Bibles in the homes of the people: they will not go for them." We tell her that she should not carry such heavy loads at a time, but she says, "I do not know what the people want, and have to carry a large variety for them to select from, or else I may miss many sales."

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Heroism in the Philippines

THE days of venturesome heroism in spreading the gospel among the islands of the Pacific have not ended. Think of venturing with an 18-foot sailboat out into typhoon infested seas. And yet, that being the only way to get the Word of God to people and towns on the scattered islands, it was bravely taken by the Bible Society colporteur. No wonder the Secretary pleads for a 30-foot boat with an engine strong enough to escape the typhoons when they spring up on those waters.

Nor has the challenge for heroism and devotion met response only from the field force of the Agency. The Secretary reports some embarrassment from the genuine zeal which has arisen in his office force to share in this trying colporteur work. A very efficient bookkeeper, a first-class proofreader, and a truck driver have applied for it.

Once again, devotion and heroism is found in still another phase of the work. High tribute is paid to one of the translator-revisers,—Mrs. A. J. Hall on the Samareño New Testament,—who was so intent on having the work completed in order that the people might have the Book that, when on her bed too weak to sit up, she insisted that the revision proof be read aloud, so that she might check it carefully against any slip or error. With such devotion by colporteurs, office force, and translators, the work goes on apace.

We cannot do better than to let the Rev. G. Bruce Cameron, Secretary of the Philippines

Agency, tell in his own words some of this thrilling story:

"Our Bible boat, under the management of Mr. Ghent, left Iligan for Cagayan, Mindanao, and towns east of there, on October 31. Mr. Ghent succeeded in reaching Butuan, a point about 150 kilometers east of Cagayan. It so happened that this year has proven to be the worst year for typhoons in the south, as is evidenced by the newspapers' reports of the havoc wrought in Samar and other southern provinces. Mr. Ghent was unfortunate enough to be caught in the midst of this typhoon weather, although not actually in the typhoons themselves. It is not once in ten years that we would experience such weather in our southern work at that time of the year. The trip was fraught with difficulties from the beginning, and the boat was narrowly saved from disaster a number of times. However, Mr. Ghent proved his seamanship and was able to land the boat safely back at Cagayan. The territory reached by the boat has not been visited by a colporteur or a missionary in a number of years. In fact, there is perhaps no other way to reach these intermediate towns, than by using a boat of our own. It has long been the dream of Mr. Ghent to reach these very towns. It is only unfortunate that the weather was so stormy at the time he attempted it. However, he will make the trip again later on, at a more favorable season when the rains will not interfere so much with work among the people.

"The boat that we are using is small and inadequate, but it is the best we could afford. We are sorely in need of at least a thirty-foot boat, with a strong enough engine to enable the occupants to run away from the storms. Mr. Ghent is a brave man, or he would never venture out in the eighteen-foot sailboat which we have provided. We appeal strongly to the readers of this report, in the hope that some might be moved to make a contribution to assist us in this immediate need. Not only do we ask this as a safeguard for the lives of the colporteurs, but also that they might be able to do the work more effectively. We would make this

by using the public trucks. During the year Mr. Ghent has done work in the provinces of Pampanga, La Union, and Ilocos Norte, as well as in the city of Baguio in the north; and in the south considerable time was spent in Cotobato.

The Appeal of the Work

"In connection with colportage work, we would make mention of the fact that our policy of colportage is undergoing a change with a view to securing more efficient and more consecrated colporteurs. Since determining on securing a higher grade of colporteur, we have laid the burden on the Lord and have been receiving almost direct answers to our



FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP CONVENTION AT SAN FRANCISCO, SEPTEMBER, 1929

Not all our work for the Philippines is across the seas. These Christian Filipinos are the product of Christian missions and they are also served in this country by our Bible missionary, Mr. B. O. Tolentino, who may be seen at the left of the picture under the x. Bishop E. H. Hughes is in the center of the group under the x. Practically all these students are supplied with Bibles.

suggestion to any one interested in helping us meet this need, that at the same time a fund be provided whereby the boat can be accompanied by a mechanic who can look after the engine. One of the problems of using a larger boat is that the man in charge of the boat and the selling campaign is usually the man who has to look after the engine, and often much valuable time is taken up in necessary repairs and in looking after the engine itself. It is often necessary for the men to travel at night on account of the tides, and if there were a man on the boat who would do the running, the man in charge could rest during the trip. We feel that this is a very important part of the boat upkeep, if such a boat should be supplied.

"In addition to Mr. Ghent's work with the boat, he has done a great deal of land travel

prayers. During the last year there have come to us several consecrated men, filled with a genuine zeal for the distribution of the Word of God. One of these men seems especially fitted and ready for outpost work. Also, we are happy to state that this has taken hold of our office, to the point where we shall probably have to reorganize; for three of our men have expressed a keen desire, based on religious fervor, to go out in the field and do house-to-house work. One of these men is our very efficient bookkeeper, the other is a first-class proofreader, and the third is our truck driver.

"It will be of interest to note that a splendid salesman from Manila has offered himself as colporteur to work in the southwest provinces. This man has long been a local preacher and a zealous Christian worker. He has dedicated

himself to this work. He is Ilongo, or Panayan—which is the dialect spoken in the southwest. This man has covered Negros Occidental during the last half of the year, and in the first part

of this coming year will cover the provinces of Antique, Iloilo, and Capiz. Our Baptist brethren will be glad to note that this is all territory allocated to the Baptist Mission."

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What Father Brought Home

By Mrs. F. E. Bullock

"FATHER'S coming," cried the children, and ran to meet him. Father was coming home from his work, with his dinner pail in his hand, when his boy and girl reached him. "Did you bring us anything?" they cried; for sometimes there were wonderful things hidden in the dinner pail, and when there was nothing else, sometimes there was a bit of Father's lunch left over for them. Of course, this was twice as good as the same victuals would have been at the table.

"Yes; I've brought you something," laughed Father; "just wait until I get in the house." But when he opened his bucket, what do you suppose it was? A book! Not at all a pretty book either—a book without covers, with part of the leaves burned and some hanging loose.

"What is it?" the children asked, and Mother left her work, too, to look and say: "What is it?"

"It's a book," cried the children; "but what has happened to it?"

"Well," said Father, "I'll have to tell you the story. You know, I've been working in that house down on 10th Street, which was blown up some time ago. There was a still there, and it exploded. Today, we were clearing up the cellar when an officer came. He was looking for something which would tell him who the man was that ran the still. He poked around, but could not find anything. Then, just as he was getting discouraged,—for it seemed as if there was nothing but ashes left by the fire that followed the explosion,—we turned up this book. It must have been in a trunk or something. Goodness knows how long it had been there.

"Well, when he opened it, what do you think? Inside was the name of the man and the town he came from, and the time he left there. His mother had given him the book. It was a Bible. I suppose he had forgotten that old book for ever so long; but there it was waiting to catch him. I thought I would bring it home just to show to you. You can throw it in the fire now."

But Mother had taken it and was looking through it. "Wait," she said; "what do you think I have found in this book? Listen." And then, slowly,—for she could not read very well,

—she spelled out: "Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance."

"Well, guess that's what happened all right," said Father. "That fellow's secret sin got found out by this book. Might keep it if you want to."

A few days later Father came home. "That fellow was found and caught," he said. "The book trapped him all right. His secret sins got out in the light."

"I've found something else about secrets," said Mother, slowly. "It was right close by where I found that other secret. I left it open, so I could show you. Listen." And again she read:

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God in whom I trust."

"That book seems to know about what poor folks need," said Father. "Mother found a story in it for us today," cried the children, "and she says she is sure there are more. Only the bottom of the page was burned off, and we couldn't find out all that happened. I wish we had a whole book."

The burned book was never thrown into the stove. Day by day it was read, and day by day it was better loved. The little house grew cleaner, and the children more tidy. There was not so much quarreling, and Father did not spend his money for liquor or for gambling. Every day the home grew happier.

Then one day there was a knock on the door. A man stood there with a pack of books. "I have Bibles for sale," he said; "would you like to see them?"

"Oh yes," cried the woman, happily. At last she found one she could afford, and as she paid for it, she said: "How glad the children will be! Now I'll be able to read all of it."

Of course, the Bible man asked her what she meant, and then she told him the story of the burned book.

And here it is for you; for this is a really true story, and it was the American Bible Society agent, or "col-por-teur" as he is called, who brought the Bibles and heard the story.

“The Seed Is the Word of God”



IN a day when the value of the Bible in character building is so lightly regarded by multitudes, the need for emphasizing its importance is urgent. To get the Bible as a book into the hands of children—physically we mean—is worth while; to see that a child owns at least a Scripture portion as his personal possession is a service which may open up the Christian life to him with its infinite possibilities; to do this early in life is to plant seed where it has the finest chance of yielding a large harvest. In the upper picture the children have the Bible in their hands while the missionary is telling them Bible stories. How intent they are. In the lower picture the response of a group of boys to the appeal of the Bible is apparent—note faces and attitudes. One feels like saying, “Give the Bible a chance. That’s all it needs.”

This work is carried on in the Fleming Park industrial section by Miss Elizabeth Kish, missionary of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh. Some as they see these groups may hear a voice saying, “Go thou and do likewise.”



BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

EDITORS *The Secretaries*

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1929

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED 1816

Bible House, Astor Place, New York

Judge Robert F. Raymond

This Board records with keenest regret the death of one of its Vice-Presidents, Judge Robert F. Raymond, who, after a very brief illness at his home, in Newton Center, Massachusetts, passed away at the age of seventy-one years. He became President of the Massachusetts Bible Society in 1914, and in July, 1915, a Vice-President of the American Bible Society. He was eminent as a lawyer both at the bar and upon the bench. In 1907, he was appointed by Governor Guild of Massachusetts, a judge of the Superior Court and was the senior justice at the time of his death. He was a distinguished and influential member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In preparation for life he studied at Wesleyan University, and was graduated from the Harvard Law School in 1894. Like his eminent older brother, Dr. Bradford P. Raymond, from 1889 to 1908 President of Wesleyan University, he was born at High Ridge, Stamford, Connecticut. His was a Puritan lineage, and in his ethical standards he was a Puritan. But he was a modern, with innumerable friendships, once made never lost, with literary tastes, revealed in his choice and comprehensive library, with unaffected loyalties to institutions, to his group fellowships, to his churches, to the experience and the broader aim of the Christian life—a Christian gentleman whom work and years failed to rob of his natural charm, his keen wit, his sense of brotherhood, his buoyant joy in life, his unflinching faith in God and his Son, Jesus Christ.

To those to whom his character and life meant most—his devoted wife, his five sons and daughters—we send assurance of our highest appreciation of this noble man and of our sympathy with them in their loss and sorrow.

Mr. Charles W. Fowle, of Clifton Springs, New York, was appointed Assistant Secretary and assigned to home distribution in association with General Secretary North.

The Board took action inviting the Advisory Council to meet with the Budget Committee on Wednesday, December 4, 1929.

A further grant of 5,000 of the Luragoli New Testament was made to the Friends' Africa Mission, Kenya Colony, East Africa.

The attention of the Board was called to an exhibit arranged by Secretary North, consisting of a page of an original Gutenberg Bible, an exact reproduction, printing, illumination and binding in two volumes, of a complete Gutenberg Bible, and of a handwritten Bible of the fourteenth century.

The Treasurer reported the following consignments to the Society's Foreign Agencies during the month of September, 1929: Brazil, 1,005 volumes, valued at \$865.53; Caribbean, 3,743 volumes, valued at \$2,025.99; La Plata, 76 volumes, valued at \$135.30; Mexico, 355 volumes, valued at \$356.82; Philippines, 16,854 volumes, valued at \$724.47; Upper Andes, 593 volumes, valued at \$487.48; West Indies, 5,421 volumes, valued at \$1,083.71; total volumes, 28,047; total value, \$5,679.30.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of September were 526,576 volumes.

THE American Bible Society was instituted in 1816 with the sole object of encouraging wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment.

Its program is world-wide and includes the translation of the Scriptures into the languages and common dialects of the people; the publication of the Scriptures in styles suitable and convenient, and at the lowest possible cost; the distribution of the Scriptures throughout the world at cost or free, as a missionary program.

Membership in the Society consists of four classes, each with its special privileges:

1. Annual Members are constituted by an annual subscription of \$5.00.
2. Life Members are constituted by a subscription of \$50.00 at one time.
3. Life Directors are constituted by a subscription of \$150.00 in one or two payments.
4. Memorial Members are constituted by a contribution of \$100.00. The contributor names the one in whose memory the Membership is created. The Bible is distributed through the years in memory of such a person.

Handsome engraved certificates are presented to Life Directors and Life Members.

Full information about the privileges of Membership will be sent on application.

The Society is supported by the gifts of its members and friends and by the contributions of Christian churches with which the Society has official or semi-official relations.

NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE BOARD

THE seventh stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and fourteenth year was held at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York, on Thursday, November 7, 1929, at 3:30 o'clock p. m., President E. Francis Hyde in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Ray Clark Tillinghast. The minutes of the sixth stated meeting for the year were presented and approved.

The following memorial minute, prepared by the appointed committee, was adopted with a rising vote:

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CASH RECEIPTS IN OCTOBER, 1929

LEGACIES

Brickenstein, Ella M., late of Lewisburgh, Pa.....	\$ 180 00
Fales, Cynthia J., late of Long Beach, Calif.....	1,987 99
Hopkins, Mary, late of Syracuse, N. Y.....	250 00
Johnson, Frank M., late of Redland, Calif.....	58 05
Stone, Lester D., late of Binghamton, N. Y.....	98 85
Thayer, Emma Edwards, late of McAllen, Texas.....	2,174 00
Waters, Mary G., late of Yonkers, N. Y.....	549 55
Williams, Susie E., late of Danielson, Conn.....	1,000 00
Wilson, Ella E., late of Mentz, N. Y.....	500 00
	\$6,798 43

ANNUITY GIFTS

Amount received during	
month	\$33,294 02

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES

	Received on Donation Book	Account
Alabama	\$ 28 62	
Charleston, S. C.	500 00	
Connecticut	100 00	
Dutchess Co., N. Y.	\$300 00	
Freedom Welsh, N.Y.	53 00	
Greene Co., N. Y.	225 00	
Massachusetts	500 00	
New Bedford, Mass.		79 97
New York		35 45
Pasquotank, N. C.		51 26
Rock Creek, S. C.		42 81
Union, S. C.	52 80	
Vermont	100 00	

Westchester Co., N. Y.	\$ 745 61
	<u>\$1,583 72</u>
On Donation Ac- count	1,230 80
	<u>\$2,814 52</u>

HOME AGENCIES

Atlantic	\$2,254	98
Central	1,641	04
Colored	2,142	08
Eastern	2,709	35
National Capital	584	34
Northwestern	3,480	85
Pacific	1,926	01
South Atlantic	1,595	89
Southwestern	2,079	75
Western	1,504	93
	\$19,919	22

FOREIGN AGENCIES

Brazil	\$1,500 00
From Home Agencies and Included	
in Home Agencies Receipts:	
Donations from Auxiliary	
Bible Societies:	
Pennsylvania	\$ 72 00
Gettysburg Ladies	100 00
Gifts from Churches	181 15
Gifts from Individuals	300 11

RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.	\$24 38
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RECAPITULATION

Legacies	\$ 6,798 43
Annuity Gifts	33,294 02

Auxiliary Societies on Do- nation account	\$1,230 80
Auxiliary Societies on Book account	1,583 72
Home Agencies	19,919 22
Foreign Agencies	1,500 00
Returns from Scriptures Donated	24 38
	<hr/> \$64,350 57

MISCELLANEOUS

Annuity Department	\$ 1,434 58
Appeals	2 03
Bible House Rentals	10,717 58
Bible Society Record	14 25
Diffusion of Information . . .	14 54
Funds for Transmission . . .	93 30
General Salaries and Expenses	14 45
Gifts from Churches	15,748 89
Gifts from Individuals . . .	16,104 13
Gifts for Distribution to the Blind:	
From Churches	22 00
From Individuals	57 45
Income from Available Investments	1,291 80
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Fund	590 37
J. P. and J. E. Wragg Fund Invested	60 00
Manufacturing Credits . . .	84 23
Miscellaneous Foreign . . .	181 58
Restoring Japan Fire Losses	137 44
Special Annuity Income and Expense	388 25
Suspense	113 85
Trade	935 70
	<u>\$48,006 42</u>

Total Cash Receipts...\$112,356 99

CASH STATEMENT FOR OCTOBER, 1929

GENERAL CASH STATEMENT

RECEIPTS

Balance from September, 1929.....	\$90,430	89
Gifts from Auxiliaries.....	1,230	80
Auxiliaries.....	1,583	72
Trade.....	935	70
Manufacturing Credits.....	84	23
Annuity Account.....	33,294	02
Bible House Rentals.....	10,717	58
Gifts for Distribution to Blind.....	79	45
Gifts from Churches.....	15,748	89
Gifts from Individuals.....	16,104	13
Bible Society Record.....	14	25
Restoring Japan Fire Loss.....	137	44
Wragg, Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Fund.....	60	00
Funds Received for Transmission.....	93	30
Special Annuity—Income and Expense Account.....	388	25
Home Agencies.....	19,919	22
Foreign Agencies.....	1,500	00
Miscellaneous Foreign.....	181	58
General—Salaries and Expenses.....	14	45
Appeals.....	2	03
Diffusion of Information.....	14	54
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds.....	590	37
Annuity Department.....	1,434	58
Incomes from Available Investment.....	1,291	80
Legacies.....	6,798	43
Returns from Scriptures Donated.....	24	38
In Suspense.....	113	85
	\$202,787	85

DISBURSEMENTS

Bills of Exchange.....	\$12,039	72
General Salaries and Expenses.....	3,196	68
Treasurer's Office—Salaries and Expenses..	1,679	09
Trade	3	00
Bible House Expenses.....	3,870	70
Appeals	1,973	35
Diffusion of Information.....	4,608	62
Annuity Department	24,368	86
Bible Society Record	24	37
Cash reserved for Publication Department..	33,462	12
Home Agencies	12,699	57
Foreign Agencies	4,594	15
Funds Received for Transmission.....	16	00
United States Trust Co.—Available Investments	3,763	10
Special Annuity—Income and Expense Account	529	00
United States Trust Co.—Annuity Account..	11,000	00
Miscellaneous Home	156	44
Miscellaneous Foreign	293	73
Church Budget Costs.....	392	43
Legacy Expenses	4	65
Library	126	54
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	636	89
Income from Available Investments.....	141	99
Plate Account	12	66
Translation and Revision	463	22
Balance to November, 1929.....	82,730	99
	\$202,787	88

PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT CASH STATEMENT

Balance from September, 1929.....	\$20,883 14	Publication Department	\$30,229 71
Transferred from General Cash.....	33,462 12	U. S. Trust Co.—Available Investment.....	20,000 00
		Balance to November, 1929.....	\$ 4,115 55
	<u>\$54,345 26</u>		<u>\$54,345 26</u>

Total Cash Balance.....	\$86,846 54
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